

School RUMBLE

Jin Kobayashi

Vol.

3



School **Rumble**

3

Jin Kobayashi

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY

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School Rumble volume 3 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

- san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.
- sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.
- dono: This comes from the word "dono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.
- kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.
- chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirr."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-(blank): This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobaiute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

School **Rumble** ③

Jin Kobayashi



photo by A. Takano



Contents

# 31	GOD FATHER	004
# 32	DEUX	011
# 33	FROM HERE TO ETERNITY	018
# 34	THE SHINING	026
# 35	LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL	034
# 36	BOY MEETS GIRL	042
# 37	MISSION IMPOSSIBLE	050
# 38	NUOVO CINEMA PARADISO	058
# 39	THE RAIN PEOPLE	066
# 40	GOOD FELLOWS	073
# 41	DIE HARD II	081
# 42	CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND	089

# 43	SUMMERTIME BLUES	097
# 44	ISLAND IN THE SUN	104
# 45	LOVE ME TENDER	112
# 46	DARK COMMANDER	122
b 06	TEA FOR TWO	129
b 07	PLEIN SOLEIL	138
b 08	PRIVATE LESSONS	147

あらすじ

Story

Tsukamoto Tenma is in the second year of high school. And like many girls her age, she is in love. However, she can't seem to make her feelings known to the man she loves, her classmate, Karasuma Ôji. And despite her passion! Despite her deep abiding love for the man, Karasuma will be transferring away in only one year, and the whole world knows it!! Even so, she has sought to confess her love, and to that end she's arranged for the cooperation of her friends and her younger sister Yakumo. She's dressed up as a nurse, she's shot arrows with notes attached, etc. One who loves Tenma is second-year high school student Harima Kenji (a juvenile delinquent by the way). But despite his passion! Despite his deep, abiding love for this woman, he can't seem to get his feelings across, and it's sent him into a daily life of depression!! Worse than that, he witnessed Tenma and Karasuma having lunch together, and it caused him to reject school and take an aimless wandering journey.

登場人物

Characters



Tsukamoto
Tenma



Tsukamoto
Yakumo



Sawachika Eri



Suô Mikoto



Takano Akira



Osakabe Itoko



Older Woman



Harima Kenji



Karasuma Ôji



Hanai Haruki



Imadori
Kyôsuke



Nara Kentarô

TOMORROW IS
THE END OF THE
TERM! ARE YOU
PREPARED??

I'M DONE
WITH MY
STUDIES!

IF YOU KEEP
GOING ALL OUT
LIKE THAT YOUR
STRENGTH...

LEAVE
IT!!

IS IT HER LACK
OF SLEEP
HER MOVES
ARE FULL OF
DEFECTS.

RA!!

OW!!

WHAMM-





SCHOOL...
...THE NEXT
DAY.



I JUST HAVE
THE FEELING
THAT THESE
WILL BE THE
QUESTIONS.

I DON'T KNOW
IF YOU'RE FAR
TOO PREPARED
OR IF YOU'VE
GIVEN UP
ALL HOPE.

IT'LL BE THIS
QUESTION,
AND THIS
ONE...AND
THIS ONE.

AKIRA, YOU
AREN'T JUST
STUDYING
QUESTIONS THAT
YOU THINK WILL
BE ON YOUR
FINDS, ARE
YOU?



**I GOT
NEWS!**

**LISTEN!
I GOT
NEWS!
NEWS!**



COULD
SHE BE
LATE?
OUT OF THE
QUESTION
ROOM?

HMP! I
JUST
NOTICED.
WHERE'S
MIKOTO?

THIS IS
A GIRL
WHO
HASN'T
STUDIED
AT ALL.

YOU WON'T
BELIEVE THIS!
I SAW A
WATER SPRITE
YESTERDAY!!
IT WAS SHINY!!



HMP
COULD
IT BE A
COLD?

SHE WAS
STUDYING
SO HEAVILY IT
COULDN'T BE...

Takano Akira: Even So, She Gets Great Grades.





Mikoto: Wants Higher Education.





IS
SOME-
BODY IN
HERE?

I DON'T
BELIEVE IT!

WHAT?

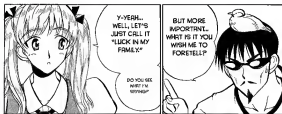


I-
SHOULD
SAY
"THANK
YOU,"
BUT...















Tsukamoto Tenma: Hasn't Even Noticed Harima.









Tsukamoto Tenma: Hasn't Even Noticed Harima.



HARIMA-
KUN!!



NO...
I CAN'T
CHASE
ANYMORE...



ズッ



He Sees Her Even in His Dreams.



N-NO,
THERE'S
NO WAY
SHE
COULD BE
HERE!



T-TENMA-
CHAN?



NOW...
NOW
FINALLY,
I CAN
SAY IT!!

LISTEN
TO ME...
I... I'VE
LOVED
YOU!
LOVED YOU
SO MUCH!



TSUKAMOTO TENMA

	CIVICS	
	CLASSICS	
	MATH	
	SCIENCE	
	PHYSICS	
ELECTIVE	JAPANESE HISTORY	
	ENGLISH	
	ART	
	HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED	

EVALUATION

THE ART TEACHER, SASAKURA-SENSEI,
PRAISED YOU, SAYING THAT YOU HAVE
A LIGHT THAT SHINES. NEVER FORGET
TO MAKE AN EFFORT TO POLISH THAT
SENSITIVITY OF YOURS!

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



***I WON'T LET IT GET
ME DOWN! I'M GOING
TO TAKE MY COLLEGE
ENTRANCE EXAMS SOON,
SO I HAVE TO DO MY
BEST!***



THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME
ANYONE'S
SAID HE
LOVES ME
LIKE THIS!

HE MEANS ME!

**HE'S SO
STRONG!**

CURRY!

THIS IS
WRONG!

HE
REALLY
ISN'T MY
TYPE.

**WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!**

IT MUST BE
WRONG,
I THINK...

HUH?!



**THAT'S
HARIMA-
KUN,
RIGHT?**



**OH,
GOD!**

**THAT WAS ONE
BIG MISTAKE!**

**THIS IS
BAD!**





BUT IT'S ALWAYS
THE GUY ASKING
HER. I NEVER ONCE
HEARD OF HER
IN AN OFFICIAL
RELATIONSHIP

HUHP!

THAT
GIRL
ALWAYS
HRS MEN
AROUND
HER.

SHE EVEN DATES
THEM EVERY SO
OFTEN.



COME
TO THINK
OF IT...

...WE NEVER
HEAR
RUMORS OF
SAWACHIKI-
SAN.



...IF YOU'VE
EVER
HEARD
OF HER
LIKING
ANY ONE
GUY.

I WAS
WONDER-
ING...

...I LOVE
YOU!!



...

XXX-KUN.



I...
I JUST...
I JUST
CAN'T
IMAGINE
WHAT
THE GUY
WOULD BE
LIKE!!

I EXPECT
SHE SIMPLY
COULDN'T
BELIEVE HER
EARS.

WHAT'S ALL
THE LAUGHTER
FOR?

BW
AH HA
HA HA
HA HA
HA
HA!!!







YOU
SAID
YOU
LIKED
CURRY!
HOW LOW
CAN YOU
GET?



うてすて

All Is Revealed!!

SAWACHIKA ERI

CIVICS		 WELL DONE!
CLASSICS		 WELL DONE!
MATH		 VERY WELL DONE!
SCIENCE		 VERY WELL DONE!
PHYSICS		 VERY WELL DONE!
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	 WELL DONE!
ENGLISH		 VERY WELL DONE!
ART		 WELL DONE!
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 VERY WELL DONE!

EVALUATION

I HEAR SHE WAS AMAZINGLY GOOD IN KENDO CLASS. I KNOW I'M A TEACHER, BUT NEXT TIME, PLEASE TEACH ME!

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



JAPANESE IS THE WORLD'S HARDEST LANGUAGE! I CAN'T USE A SINGLE VOCABULARY WORD ON THE TESTS THAT I USE TO TALK TO MY FRIENDS. STILL, I LIKE IT ANYWAY.







...
READ
IT

HARIMA-
KUN...



NOW...

... WHAT'S
TO
BECOME
OF ME?

FINALLY.
FINALLY,
SHE KNOWS
IT ALL.



NOW,
HOW
WILL YOU
ANSWER
IT?!

And tell you of my love!
This is my first and my last chance,
Forget it. It's **not** *lie*.
Made for errors I regret today.
My clumsiness
The first time ever I spoke my love,
All I could see was you.



Was as a thing stolen away.
My beating heart
The first time ever I beheld you,
"To You ~ Ride the Wind ~"

NOW THAT
YOU KNOW
WHAT'S IN
MY HEART...



DO IT!!
CRUSH
ME!!!





**DON'T
QUIT!
COME TO
SCHOOL,
HARIMA-
KUN!**



OKAY?



OKAY?

THEN...

A LETTER
FROM
HARIMA? I
WONDER
WHAT'S IN IT?
LET'S TAKE A
GLANCE.



WHO
ARE YOU
AGAIN?
DO I KNOW
YOU?



UHH.. IT'S A LONG
STORY, BUT I'M
HOME NOW. HL
OH NO! HERE..



LET'S HURRY
UP AND GET
SWIMMING!

EHHHHP!

WE JUST ATE
LUNCH. WE'LL
GET CRAMPS IF
WE SWIM
NOW.

I'M GOING
TO TAKE A
BREAK.



UNLESS SHE'S
CAREFUL, THEY'LL
MISTAKE HER FOR
A GRADE-SCHOOL
STUDENT.

CAN'T WE DO
SOMETHING ABOUT THIS
LIFE PRESERVER?



STILL, SHE
SURE IS
ENERGETIC.

HUP
WHOP
WHERE?

OH!!



LOOK OVER
THERE/ AREN'T
THOSE GIRLS
THE FINEST?

**THE TALL
ONE'S A REAL
BEAUTY!!**

SHE'S GOT REAL STYLZ!

**THE SHORT-
MARKED ONE
IS A LITTLE
OUT OF THE
ORDINARY.**

LIKE SHE'S GONE
PROFESSIONAL.



**SHE DRAWS THE
EYE IN A
GOOD WAY!
THE CUTEST
THING I'VE
EVER SEEN!**

LIKE A MODEL!

**WHOA!
THAT
MIXED-
RACE
GIRL!!**











ON YOU,
I MEAN...

TH-THEN, IF IT'S
OKAY WITH
YOU, I COULD
TRY A PICKUP
LINE...



EHP?



5-60
AFTERWARDS,
DO YOU WANT
TO GO TO
KARAOKE
WITH ME...

GRASP
グASP

**REALLY?!
ALL RIGHT!!**
NOW I CAN
HOLD MY HEAD
UP AROUND
YAKUMO!



I MEAN,
KARASUMA-
KUN WAS
NEVER THIS
NICE TO...

HEH
ヘヘ
HEH

IT'S FUN
BEING
PICKED UP!
NOW I GET
HOW DOL-CRAV
FEELS!

**WOW!
THIS GUY
IS NICER
THAN I
THOUGHT!**



DON'T
LET GO!
DON'T
LET GO,
OKRY?



THEN WHO IS
THE GUY WHO
TSUKUMOTO-
SAN LIKES?

YOU'RE
OKRY
YOU'RE
SWIMMING
FINE.

EHP!

REALLY?
THEN YOU
CAN LET GO,
AND I CAN
SWIM?



SURE...

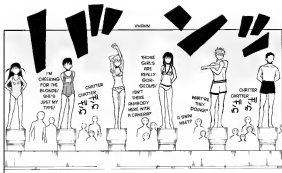


JUST TRY
A LITTLE
HARDER...
MAYBE THIS
IS BETTER
PRACTICE...









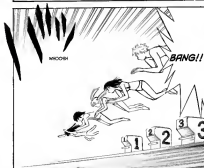
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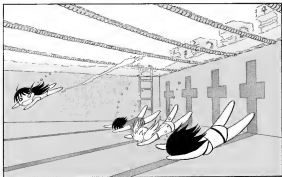
ON
YOUR
MARKS!

GET
SET...



ONE OF
THESE
FOUR IS
SURE TO
WIN!!





SO WE'RE GOING
TO THE BEACH
WITH TSUKIMOTO
AND HER FRIENDS
NEXT WEEK...



**WE'RE
SORRY!**

WE THOUGHT
THAT FOR
SURE ONE OF
US COULD
SWIM.

**ONE WORD!!
ONE WORD,
AND WE
COULD HAVE
AVOIDED
THIS!!!**



I GOTTA
MAKE
SURE HE
NEVER
FINDS
OUT.

BUT
HARIMA-KUN
LIKES HER
TOO...



SUO MIKOTO

CIVICS		 HEY WELL DONE!
CLASSICS		 HEY WELL DONE!
MATH		 WELL DONE!
SCIENCE		 WELL DONE!
PHYSICS		 WELL DONE!
ELECTIVE	JAPANESE HISTORY	 HEY WELL DONE!
	ENGLISH	 WELL DONE!
ART		 HEY OFF A LITTLE HIGHER
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 HEY WELL DONE!

EVALUATION

NEXT TIME AT THE PARENT/TEACHER/
STUDENT CONFERENCE, I'D LIKE YOU TO
COME WITH YOUR MOTHER. NOT YOUR
FATHER, PLEASE.

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



*WHAT'S WITH THAT
EVALUATION? THERE'S
NOTHING TO BE SO
AFRAID OF.*











Sawachika Eri: Naturally She's Still Angry.





YAKANO AKIRA

CIVICS		 VERY WELL DONE!
CLASSICS		 VERY WELL DONE!
MATH		 EXCELLENT!
SCIENCE		 VERY WELL DONE!
PHYSICS		 VERY WELL DONE!
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	 VERY WELL DONE!
ENGLISH		 VERY WELL DONE!
ART		 WELL DONE!
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 VERY WELL DONE!

EVALUATION

I UNDERSTAND YOUR NEED TO DO PART-TIME WORK, BUT IF YOU COULD CONCENTRATE JUST A LITTLE MORE ON YOUR STUDIES, I THINK YOU COULD BECOME EVEN MORE SUCCESSFUL AS A STUDENT.

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



IF IT'S FOR THE ONE I LOVE, I CAN DO MORE.



39

THE RAIN PEOPLE



I CAN TAKE
SHELTER
AT THE
BUS
STOP!



IT'S
KINDA
CREEPY
BUT I CAN
TAKE IT/ I
CAN!



A CLOUD-
BURSTY GEEZ!
THEY COULD'VE
PRINTED UP
A WEATHER
SCHEDULE FOR
US!



EH...

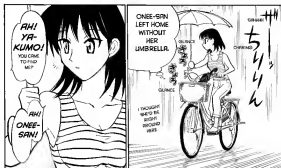


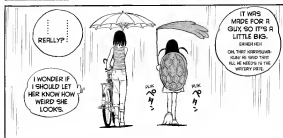
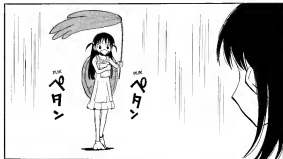






The Cloudburst Was Sudden.







40

GOOD FELLOWS

...THAT WILL LEAD YOU TO THE RIGHT WAY TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION.

$2 = 8 \times 4 \times 2$
 $3 = 4 \times 3 \times 2$
 $4 = 2 \times 2 \times 2$



SO IF WE USE "X" FROM QUESTION ONE AS AN EXAMPLE...

YOUR EXPLANATIONS ARE SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND, AKIRA-CHAN!



YEAH!



DO YOU UNDERSTAND?



I'VE BEEN REBORN BY THESE TUTORING SESSIONS!
I FEEL NOTHING!



I'M SO GLAD THAT TENMA-CHAN IS STUPID!
MAYBE THAT'S NOTHING TO BE OLDED ABOUT.



WHAT IS THIS? I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HAPPY ABOUT TUTORING IN MY LIFE!
I GUESS ONLY TWO OF US WERE PREPARED WITH ME...



NOW THAT'S INTERESTING.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!!!



EVERY-THING'S PACKED, AND I'M READY TO GO!!

COME TO THINK OF IT, TSUKIMOTO-SAN, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO SLEEP OVER ON OUR TRIP ARE YOU ALL PICKED?

TSUKIMOTO IS A PICKED OVER IT.



I'M GOING TO FIND HIM, AND THEN I'LL CRAM THE FIST OF JUSTICE... I MEAN, THE FIST OF LOVE DOWN HIS THROAT!

DAMMIT! JUST WHO IS THE IDIOT?



THE GUY THEY'RE GOING WITH... HE MUST BE AFTER TENMA-CHAN, HUH? SHE IS THE BEST OF THE LOT.



HEY, WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?

I MAY HAVE TO FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO INVITE TENMA-CHAN TO THE BEACH MYSELF.

NO NO OPTIMIST

N-NO! NO! I'M A MAN REBORN! I'LL GO TO TUTORING TOMORROW AND SEE TENMA-CHAN THERE.



I, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE MOVED BEYOND ALL THAT.

AREN'T I RIGHT, MY FRIEND?

OH, TENNŌJI, YOU'RE A MORON AS ALWAYS, HUH?

LOWDOWN

YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH ME WEARING A SPEEDOP?



YOU HAVE GAD-FERINERY? AND YOU WERE GOING TO CHASE.

IT WAS THIS WEIRD JUVENILE DELINQUENT! BUT WHO IS A WEIRD JUVENILE DELINQUENT? DAMMIT! THIS MAY BE PUNISHMENT FOR TRYING TO CRYST ON OUR GAD-FRIENDS.



YOU WERE ALL INJURED IN A FIGHT!

NONE OF YOU CAN GO ON THE TRIP!



NARR-KUN'S HOUSE.

Tennōji: Oh, Yeah. He's the Guy Harima Always Fights.









Tsukamoto Tenma: Yes, She Really Is Clueless.







GOOD.
WE'RE ALL
HERE.



...BENTO
BOXES
I MADE
ESPECIALLY
FOR YOU!

WHAT DO
YOU THINK?
I BROUGHT
FOR
EVERYONE...



HERE,
TSUKA-
MOTO-
KUN.



AND YOU,
SAWA-
CHIKA-
KUN.



THANK
YOU

HERE,
TAKANO-
KUN.



YAKUMO-
KUN,
JUST
FOR
YOU!!

AND!
I PUT EXTRA
EFFORT INTO THIS
SPECIAL BENTO..



YOU
SHOULDN'T
WASTE!

YOURS,
NARA AND
IMDORI.

PEARL



HA
HA...
U-UM...

HERE'S
YOURS,
SUO.





IT'S
PRETTY
HOT
OUT!

LOOK
AT ALL
THE
PEOPLE!



IT'S
THE
SEA!!



SNIFF!
TSUKUMO-KUN! WHY
DIDN'T YOU COME
ALONG?
I DID SO MUCH
PREPARATION FOR
THIS DAY!



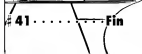
TSUKA-
MOTO...
IS SO
CUTE!

IT FEELS LIKE
FINALLY, AT THE
END OF A LONG
ROAD, THE SEA!





Harima: Going All Out.



HARIMA KENJI

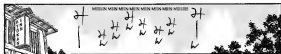
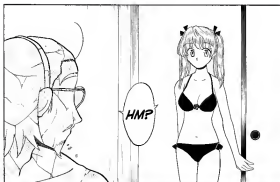
CIVICS		
CLASSICS		
MATH		
SCIENCE		
PHYSICS		
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	
ENGLISH		
ART		
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		

EVALUATION

HARIMA..WHAT WAS THAT LETTER ALL ABOUT..P
YES, IT'S TRUE THAT YOUR HOMEROOM
TEACHER IS SINGLE STILL..BUT..



NEXT TIME I'LL TRY HARD
AND GET RID OF THOSE
FAILING GRADES. BUT
THAT MEANS I HAVE TO
BE TUTORED ALONGSIDE
TENMA-CHAN.





Godfinger.







HANAI HARUKI

CIVICS		 HEY WELL DONE!
CLASSICS		 WELL DONE!
MATH		 HEY WELL DONE!
SCIENCE		 HEY WELL DONE!
PHYSICS		 HEY WELL DONE!
ELECTIVE	JAPANESE HISTORY	 HEY WELL DONE!
ENGLISH		 HEY WELL DONE!
ART		 WELL DONE!
HEALTH-ED / PHYS-ED		 HEY WELL DONE!

EVALUATION

JOB WELL DONE/ COME TO THINK OF IT, I DOUBT THAT ANYONE ELSE COULD HANDLE THE JOB OF REPRESENTING THIS CLASS.

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



HM. MY GRADES IN THE CLASSICS HAVE TAKEN A SLIGHT DOWNTURN. THAT CLASS IS AT THE SAME TIME THAT YAKUMO-KUN IS TAKING PHYS. ED., AND I MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BIT DISTRACTED.



43

SUMMERTIME BLUES



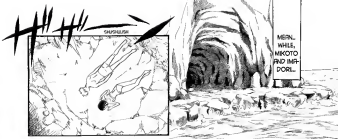












MERN,
WHILE,
MIKOTO
AND IMP-
DORL...



WHA--P!



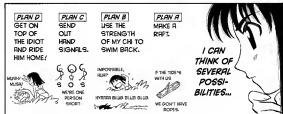
...HAVE
WASHED
ASHORE.

WHERE
AM I?

WHL...









**I-IMADORI
IS LOST
IN DEEP
THOUGHT!**

I-**I'VE NEVER SEEN
HIM LOOK THIS
SERIOUS.**



**IT'S
D!**

W-WELL?
HAVE YOU
COME UP WITH
SOMETHING?

MY
THOUGHTS
RANGE FROM
A TO D.



**WHAT?! IT
COULDN'T BE!
WAS HE THINKING
THE SAME THING
I WAS? AND IF HE
WAS, HE CAME
TO THE SAME
CONCLUSION,
TOO!!**

AND BY THE WAY,
DANGEROUS! NOW
THAT'S MENACE!!





LET'S
HAVE
SOME
SERIOUS
THOUGHT
HERE!!!

IF I SAY
IT'S D, THEN
IT'S D!

I CAN'T BE WRONG.
MIKOTO-CHAN,
YOU'RE A D-CUP!
I'M RIGHT, HUH?
MIKOTO-CHA—

... HE'S
NOT
SO
BAD.

MAYBE...



Mikoto's Feelings, Deep in Her Breast.



THE THOUGHT,
"GIVE ME A KISS,
AND I'LL SWIM FOR
YOU," IS A REALLY
GOOD IDEA. THE
PROBLEM IS HOW
TO BROACH THE
SUBJECT.

JUST WANT
TO TALK
TO YOU
ABOUT
THIS.

MIKOTO-
CHAN
SURE IS
CUTE.



THEN A
KISS IS OUT,
HUH?

WELL, SOMEONE LIKE
A ONE-ARMED
GUY...

REALLY?
WHAT KIND
OF GUY?
SOMEBODY
AT SCHOOL?

MIKOTO DIDN'T HEAR THAT.

Y-
YEAH,
I DO,
BUT...

EH?!

DE

BLAM

HEY,
MIKOTO-
CHAN, IS
THERE
SOME-
BODY
THAT YOU
LIKE?



WE'RE
READY,
AKIRA-
CHAN!

OKAY,
CHEESE!

THEY'VE
FOR-
GOTTEN.

IN FACT,
THEY'RE REALLY
ENJOYING
THEMSELVES.



IMADORI KYOSUKE

CIVICS		 WILL DOOM!
CLASSICS		 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
MATH		 WILL DOOM!
SCIENCE		 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
PHYSICS		 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
ENGLISH		 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
ART		 NEVER TRY A LITTLE HARDER
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 WILL DOOM!

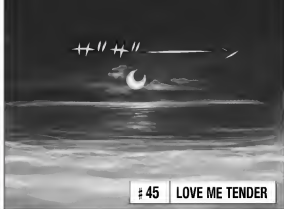
EVALUATION

YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS ALWAYS RINGING DURING CLASS. DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT! ALSO, NO MORE CHEATING ON TESTS. ALSO..

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



MAYBE I'M NO GOOD AT STUDYING, BUT I WANT TO HAVE A FUN LIFE! STILL, IF I DON'T GO TO COLLEGE, NO GIRLS WILL EVER COME NEAR ME! THAT'S A DILEMMA!









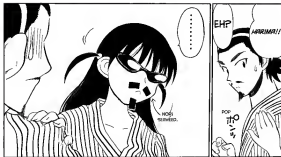


Harima Kenji: An Incredible Optimist.





This Is, in a Way, Happiness.







TIME
TO DO
THIS!

.....
EHP!

THIS
IS
MORE
IMPOR-
TANT!!

HMM...
ALL I NEED
IS A FEW
MORE
MINUTES,
AND I'LL REMEM-
BER...



YOU
KNOW,
FOR A
WHILE
NOW, I'VE
BEEN IN
LO...

LISTEN
TO
ME!



SHE'S NOT
DOING THIS
ON PURPOSE,
IS SHE...?

DOESN'T
OBSERVE!

I MEAN,
PUT
YOURSELF
IN MY PLACE
FOR JUST A
SECOND!!

ANYBODY
WHO SAW
ME CAN
TELL THAT
I'M IN LOVE
WITH YOU!!

AND HIS
SPECIAL
TRAINING
CONTINUED
WELL INTO
THE NIGHT.



REALLY
INTO IT

EHP!
BUT YOU
WERE
GOOD
THIS
TIME!!

I
CAN'T
SAY
IT!

ONLY ONE
THING TO
DO! I'LL DEMON-
STRATE
ONE MORE
TIME!











Pitched Battle in the Darkness.







THIS IS THE
TEA CEREMONY
CLUB'S
SPECIALTY
MILK TEA AND
FRAMBOISE
PIE.



I WAS SURE
YOU WOULDN'T
LIKE ANYTHING
TOO SWEET.
YAKIMO?
SO I MIXED
JUST A LITTLE
CINNAMON WITH
YOUR TEA.



RELAY?
I'M
SO
GLAD!



IT'S
DELI-
CIOUS.



I MEAN, WE
REALLY
DON'T HAVE
MUCH CLUB
ACTIVITY.

HOW-
EVER!

I DON'T
CARE
ONE
WAY
OR THE
OTHER.



THE OTHER
MEMBERS
AND I WOULD
WELCOME
YOU! RIGHT,
GENSEI?

WELL,
YAKIMO? ARE
YOU GOING
TO JOIN THE
TEA CEREMONY
CLUB?







Kikicha: Also known as Tōcha (Battle Tea).







ICHIJO KAREN

CIVICS		 WELL DONE!
CLASSICS		 WELL DONE!
MATH		 WELL DONE!
SCIENCE		 WELL DONE!
PHYSICS		 WELL DONE!
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	 WELL DONE!
ENGLISH		 VERY WELL DONE!
ART		 WELL DONE!
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 EXCELLENCE!

EVALUATION

IT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD TO BECOME
ABSORBED IN YOUR PROJECTS, BUT
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T NEGLECT YOUR
SCHOOLWORK.



THANK YOU SO MUCH
FOR GIVING ME A
DRAGON GRADE. I'LL
GIVE IT MY BEST IN THE
FUTURE.



1000



07

PLEIN SOLEIL





I WANNA GO PLAY!
I DON'T WANNA STAY AT HOME!
I WANNA GO/ SCISSORS/
SCISSORS,
THAT'S THE KEY!
THROW OUT THAT

V
SIGN!

JAN-
KEN!!!

BUT WE'LL WE
GET'S INTO IT

I'LL GET
YOU ON
THE
FIRST
TRY!!!!

ALL
RIGHT!!!

PON!!!



SORRY
ABOUT THIS,
YAKUMO!
I'M HEADED
OUT!

TAKE
CARE

WE'D
PROBABLY
BE BETTER IF
SHE DIDN'T
READ HER
OPPONENT

YAKUMO, YOU REALLY ARE BAD
AT THIS GAME! ACTUALLY, I USE
A SPECIAL TECHNIQUE TO READ
WHAT MY OPPONENT'S HAND
IS GOING TO DO. YOU DO LIKE
THIS AND TAKE A PEAK AT WHAT
YOUR OPPONENT'S HAND IS
DOING.



OH, I
KNOW!
I'LL DO
THAT!

BUT WAITING
DOWN THE
PNEUMATIC
AND SHED
ICE TRACT
WORK...

WHAT? I DO?
I SHOULD DO
SOMETHING TO MAKE
THINGS COOLER
BEFORE ONE-SAN
COMES HOME.

OH, YOU'RE FROM
THE ELECTRICIAN'S...
EHP YOU CAN'T COME
FIX IT TODAY?

I SEE... OKAY...











A Summer Night Long Ago: A Memory.



All Is Revealed!!

TSUKAMOTO YAKUMO

CIVICS		
CLASSICS		
MATH		
SCIENCE		
PHYSICS		
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	
ENGLISH		
ART		
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		

EVALUATION

THESE ARE EXCELLENT GRADES. BUT
YOUR TEACHER WORRIES ABOUT THOSE
TIMES EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE WHEN YOU
ARE ABSENT WITHOUT PERMISSION.

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



THESE DAYS, STUDYING
IS BECOMING HARDER
AND HARDER.



EVEN
DURING
SUMMER
VACATION,
HIS DAILY
LIFE IS
LITTLE
CHANGED.

HANAI HARUKI.
THEY SAY THAT HE
ATTENDS BOTH
MARTIAL ARTS CLUBS
AND LITERARY CLUBS.
THAT HE IS RUSTY
AND
HESITANT.

HE WAKES
AT 4:00
IN THE
MORNING.



THAT'S
ENOUGH!!

HA!!!



HAI HAI.
I
GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

YEAH, BUT
THAT WOULD
WASTE HIS
BRAIN-
POWER,
HUN?

WE DO WHAT WE CAN
FOR YASUHIRO.
BEING IN THE KOD
BAROU COULD DO
WELL IN OUR
SCHOOL, TOO.



OUR DOJO
IS PRETTY
PATHEIC.
SPARRING
WITH GUYS
FROM A
DIFFERENT
MARTIAL
ART.





IF I DO SOMETHING WEIRD, SUO WILL GET MAD AT ME AGAIN.

I SHOULD CHARTER THE HEART SUITOR IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.

FOR SOME REASON MIKOTO IS VERY TOUGH ON HENRI IN FRONT OF HER FRIENDS.

THEY TOLD ME TO DO SOMETHING ENTERTAINING... BUT...



SUO'S BIRTHDAY PARTY..

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN?

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL, THEY WERE A PAIR WITH AN UNUSUALLY EASY WINNER BETWEEN THEM.



BUT THIS *HAHA-HAHA* *HAHAHA*—CAN'T GO LETTING EVERYONE DOWN.

DRAMMIT! I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING THAT EVERYBODY WOULD LIKE!



HM...?

THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING! SOMETHING!

EVERYBODY!

GIVE A KID'S MAGIC SET! GIVE ME ANYTHING!!



WITHIN MY SOUL, SOMETHING THAT WAS SLEEPING...

...BEGAN TO AWAKEN.



WHAT'S THIS...?

THE SUMMER
OF MY
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL,
SECOND
YEAR.

YES!
THAT
WAS...



THAT'S
FIGHTERS LIKE
YOU SHOULD
JUST COME
UP EARLIER!
ARTS!

YOU
AIN'T NO
GOOD!

YOU
JUST A
DOUBT!

HA!



THE WORST!
ARE YOU
REALLY
FROM A
FAMILY
WITH A
DOJO?

YER
REALLY A
ROTTEN
FIGHTER!



AH...!

GOING!

BOOK-
WORMS LIKE
YOU SHOULD
GRIND AWAY
AT YOUR
STUDIES!

I WAS
FORCED
INTO THE
DOJO
BY MY
FATHER.

NOBODY
KNEW THAT
BETTER
THAN ME.



IF YOU
REALLY
THINK
THAT, WHY
BASK MY
CLOUSEIN?

NOW I
CAN'T
EVEN
STUDY!

HA
HA
HA!







IT SEEMED SO UNNATURAL, I WAS SHOCKED.

IT WAS AS IF I WAS AS INVISIBLE AS AIR.



MY ONLY
THOUGHT
WAS, "NO
WAY I'M
GOING TO
LEAVE THIS
HOUSE!"



むい
か
GRO

BECAUSE SHE'S THE HELPER.
BECAUSE MIKO-CHAN IS A HERO.
BECAUSE I'M THE BULLY'S VICTIM.

ONLY DOING IT OUT OF PITY AND SELF-
SATISFACTION.



COME OUT
HERE! I'M
GONNA
BLOW THIS
UNTIL YOU
COME
OUT!!

WHOO
WHOO
WHOO

MIKOTO WAS BLIND
EVEN BACK THEN



NO!
I AM NOT
GOING!!
I AM
DEFINITELY
NOT GOING!!

BUT EVEN SO,
MIKO-CHAN
CAME TO THE
HOUSE.

I COULD HAVE
JUST GIVEN
IN, BUT I WAS
STUBBORN.



EVERY
DRY, RAINY
DAYS,
BLUSTERY
DAYS...



IT'S MIKO-
CHAN'S
MOTHER!



ALL RIGHT!
YOU'VE FINALLY
DECIDED TO
COME TO
SCHOOL!

THE
NEXT
DAY.

I'M AN
AWFUL
PERSON.

STOP THAT TALK
RIGHT NOW!
YOU'VE STILL
GOT A COLD
FROM THIS!!

NOT ABOUT
HER COLD OR
HER MOTHER
'SCOLDING
HER.

MIKO-
CHAN
NEVER
SAID A
WORD.

THE TEACHER'S
BEEN
BUGGING
ME TO PUT
ON MY
PERFORMANCE!

LET'S DO
OUR BEST,
HUH?

YOU TWO MAKE
A FINE COUPLE!
WHEN'S THE
WEDDING?

SUO, HOW CAN YOU
SHOW YER FACE PAIRED
UP WITH A GUY?
THE OTHER GUY'S NOT IN
GIRLS-ONLY TERRITORY!

WHAT
DO WE
GOT
HERE?

NOSBODY'D
BLAME YOU
FOR NOT
FOLLOWING
TEACHER'S
ORDERS.

...YOU
CAN STOP
NOW,
MIKO-
CHAN.

THEN
WHY TEAM
UP WITH
A LOSER
LIKE
HANAIP

TH-THAT'S
GOT
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
YOU!
GET OUT OF
HERE!







Continued in Volume 4.

All Is Revealed!!

KARASUMA CUI

CIVICS		 GOOD
CLASSICS		 PETA PETA
MATH		 MATH MATH
SCIENCE		 SCIENCE SCIENCE
PHYSICS		 PHYSICS PHYSICS
ELECTIVE	WORLD HISTORY	 WORLD HISTORY
	ENGLISH	 ENGLISH
ART		 ART
HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED		 HEALTH-ED/ PHYS-ED

EVALUATION

SEARCH. I'M SURE YOU CAN FIND IT.

COMMENT FROM THE STUDENT



MY GRADES HAVE
SLIPPED A LITTLE BIT.

About the Creator

Jin Kobayashi was born in Tokyo. *School Rumble* is his first manga series. He has answered these questions from his fans:

What is your hobby?

Basketball

Which manga inspired you to become a creator?

Dragon Ball

Which character in your manga do you like best?

Kenji Harima

What type of manga do you want to create in the future?

Action

Name one book, piece of music, or movie you like.

The Indiana Jones series

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural difference is used.

***Dôbutsu Uranai*, page 14**

Like the Western and Chinese zodiacs, *dôbutsu uranai* (Japanese for animal fortune-telling) divides personality types into twelve different groups based on the date of birth. It claims to use ancient Asian elements such as the Four Pillars of Destiny and the Five Elements, with social psychology and behavioral psychology thrown in. The animal types are Wolf, Panther, Koala, Fawn, Monkey, Sheep, Elephant, Raccoon, Cheetah, Pegasus, Tiger, and Lion. Harima Kenji's *dôbutsu uranai* is a parody of the current, very popular form of fortune-telling.

Thank You for Looking After Me, **page 35**

This Japanese expression (*Oaewa ni narimashita*) is a standard phrase that is normally used when one leaves a place where one has stayed for the night or been looked after in other ways. It is also used when a family member is leaving the home not soon to return.



Weather Schedule, page 66

No, Japan isn't so technologically advanced that it can schedule the weather, but (just follow me here for a second) the Japanese could have printed such a weather schedule on the Side 6 space colony where Amuro Ray was deluged by a cloudburst while driving, which forced him to take shelter and get his first glimpse of Lalah Sune, the object of a tragic future encounter that would change his life. Yes, Kobayashi-sensei has Tenma quoting a relatively obscure line from the classic anime giant-robot TV series and movies, *Mobile Suit Gundam*.



Tortoise Shell, page 68

The English pun here was a little different from the Japanese version. The text referred to Karasuma-kun's rain gear (*kappa*). Employing a visual pun, Jin Kobayashi has him wear a costume that makes him look like a water sprite (also called *kappa*—see the notes for volume 2 for more information on water sprites). Since in English there are no words that mean both "water sprite" and "rain gear," this wasn't a very translatable pun.



Watery Pate, page 68

The traditional Japanese water sprite (*kappa*) has a round spot on the middle of its head that is filled with water. That's the watery pate that Karasuma wears. (See the notes for volume 2 for more information on *kappa*.)



Bento Boxes, page 82

A bento box can be just a Styrofoam box with some food in it, but more traditional bento boxes are filled with as much food as possible and are also very beautiful. Traditional boxes are made of lacquered wood and constructed to be nested with other boxes.



Ryōkan Inn, page 83

Ryōkan are traditional Japanese inns. The guest rooms are generally Japanese-style tatami-mat rooms with low tables that are cleared away in the evening to make room for futon bedding. *Ryōkan* are generally less expensive than the Western-style inns and offer more personalized service by the owners and staff.

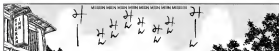
Colonel Stuart, page 87

Harima Kenji is referring to a scene in *Die Hard 2* in which the head bad guy, Colonel Stuart (William Sadler), does his karate moves in his apartment fully nude.



Miin Miin, page 89

The sound effect *miin miin*, is one of the onomatopoeia the Japanese use for the sound of a cicada, an insect that can bury itself underground for up to seventeen years before coming out to mate. Summer is when the cicadas come out, so one clue in Japanese entertainment that the scene is set in high summer is the sound of the cicada's loud and incessant chirping.



Godfinger, page 90

Godfinger was an attack in the anime show *Mobile Fighter G Gundam*. In it, the machine's hand heats up to extremely high temperatures in order to attack the enemy. Although it is called Godfinger, it uses the entire hand.

Amida-kuji Graph, page 95

Also called a Japanese lottery, this is a graph with vertical lines for each contestant that leads to some different end point.

At (supposedly) random points there should be horizontal lines drawn between any two consecutive vertical lines. Each contestant chooses a line and

at every intersection, the contestant must turn right, left, or down (which direction is determined by the intersection). Since each path leads to the same end point every time, a clever person can draw a graph that gets the person where he or she wants to go.



The Twelve Kingdoms, page 98

Jūnikokukū or *The Twelve Kingdoms* is a series of fantasy novels by Fuyumi Ono (also the author of the novel *Ghost Hunt*) that was a hit in Japan. It features a modern girl who is told that she is to become the ruler of a kingdom named Kei and is spirited away into a fantasy world reminiscent of the myths of ancient China. It has since gone on to become a popular anime series.

Sempai, page 109

In this case, when Mikoto says *sempai*, she is talking about a boy who was an upperclassman when she was in her first year of high school.



Nori or Really into It, page 119

The Japanese here was a pun. The phrase *chōshi ni noru* means to be carried away with something. A short way to say that is simply *noru* or *nori*. And if one is really carried away, *norinori*. And that is what the Japanese said: that Tenma was *norinori*. But since she's wearing *nori* seaweed wraps all over her face, she could be called *norinori* just because she's covered in *nori*.



Framboise, page 129

The French word *framboise* means "raspberries." We could have translated it as "raspberries," but the original used the French word, and it makes sense to the story to retain the French in the translation.



Kikicha, page 132

Kikicha is a blend of fragrant bao zhong tea from Taiwan and oolong tea from China's Fujian province. The tea became something of a hit for Kirin's beverage line around the year 2000.



Jeewa, page 139

Jeewa is another of the sounds that the Japanese use to indicate the noise cicadas make. (See the note for page 89.)

Shaved-ice Machine, page 139

Most Japanese homes have a shaved-ice maker. And since shaved-ice is a favorite of the kids, the ice makers come in cute character shapes such as penguins.



Jan-Ken-Pon, page 140

In Japan, paper-scissors-rock is called *jan-ken-pon*, or *janken* for short. The rules are the same as in America: scissors beats paper, paper beats rock, and rock beats scissors. It's played by reciting *jan-ken-pon!*, and players show their hands on the word *pon*. If it turns out to be a tie, the next line would be *aiiko deshō!* (Perhaps another tie!), where, again, the hand is shown on the final syllable.

Yukata, page 141

Japan in the summer is hot and sticky, and one of the practical and beautiful innovations that Japan developed to deal with the weather is a light cotton kimono called a *yukata*. Inexpensive and exquisitely decorated with prints or embroidery, women's *yukata* are a delightful sight during festivals and ceremonies.



Suō or Such?, page 149

As most manga fans may have heard, there is a wide variety of ways that Japanese words and names can be changed using our alphabet. One way, popular among sports teams, is to add the letter h to indicated long vowels. The problem with this is that it is not applied consistently. Some players will have the h added to short vowels as well. The use of the diacritic [~] always indicates long vowels, so that convention is used by this translation.



Chanting the Heart Sutra, page 149

In Japanese, it's called Hannya Shingyō, and in Sanskrit, Prajna-paramitahrdaya. Its full name in English is The Heart of Perfect Wisdom Sutra, and it is frequently used by Zen sects during ceremonies in Japan,



China, Korea, and Vietnam. It is also a crucial sutra to the Shingon Buddhist School in Japan, and their founder, Kukai, wrote a commentary on it. Chanting the sutra is not normally considered entertainment.

Thanks for the Meal, page 151

There are many standard set phrases that are used in daily life in Japan. When one begins a meal, one always says "itadakimasu," which literally means, "I am about to receive." When finishing a meal, one follows the example of young Hanai Haruki by saying "gochisō-sama." which means it was a feast.



Sōmen, page 152

Sōmen are white wheat-flour noodles that are usually served cold. Normally, sōmen are served with a thin broth into which they're dipped and then eaten.



